

LAURA KNIGHT
Program Manager, Sea Warrior Program (PMW 240)

Laura Knight attended college at San Diego State University where she was granted a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics in 1983 and a Master of Science Degree in Applied Mathematics in 1989. She is certified in executive program management, and systems planning, research development, and engineering by the Defense Acquisition University.

In June 1983, Ms. Knight began her civil service career at the Center, then the Naval Ocean Systems Center, San Diego CA. Her years at the Center (now Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Pacific) were spent largely in the area of Modeling and Simulation, and Command and Control applications of M&S. Her career began as a member of the Systems Planning and Analysis staff, principally focused in the area of anti-submarine warfare. In 1985 she served as the Project Manager for a Tactical Development and Evaluation project to develop tactics for maritime patrol aircraft operating in the marginal ice zone. While in this office, she worked as an analyst for Naval War College Global Wargame & Technology Initiatives Games.

In 1988 she began working as a program manager in the Research, Evaluation and Systems Analysis (RESA) Simulation program office. While in the RESA program office she served as program manager for a variety of research and development efforts including Submarine Laser Communications analysis efforts, Air Defense Initiative Concept of Operations Exercises, and a variety of command, control and communications, and test and evaluation related simulation programs. She also helped to initiate and conduct educational/ advanced technology seminar war games for senior management using RESA. In 1993 she was appointed as the Technical Direction Agent for the Enhanced Naval Warfare Gaming System (ENWGS), as the program was going through major change and migrating to a new architecture.

In 1994 she was recruited as the Modeling and Simulation Engineer for establishing the Initial Operating Capability of the US Joint Forces Command Joint Training, Analysis and Simulation Center in Suffolk Virginia. As the M&S Engineer, she established the modeling and simulation system environment and capability for supporting the Command's Joint training program. Following this assignment, she was selected in 1996 as the System Engineer for the Joint Simulation System (JSIMS) Maritime Program where she was responsible for managing and developing the Navy software component of JSIMS. In June 2000, Ms. Knight was appointed to a 3 year term appointment in the Senior Executive Service, reporting to the Chief of Naval Operations, Director of Naval Training and Education. She served as the JSIMS Alliance Executive, where she was the program and system integrator for JSIMS, reporting to the JSIMS Army Program Manager. Following this assignment, from Oct 2003 to Nov 2005 she was detailed to Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy Infrastructure, Strategy and Analysis to provide technical and analytical support in command and control technology to the Navy Base Realignment and Closure 2005 office.

In December 2005, Ms. Knight was detailed to the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) as the Joint Program Manager for the Net-Enabled Command Capability (NECC) program, a major defense acquisition program. Following a Nov 2009 department redirection for C2, Ms. Knight transitioned to Deputy PM Joint Command and Control Capability. In July 2010, Ms. Knight was selected as the Program Manager for DOD Teleport, a Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) managed major defense acquisition program (ACAT 1AM). Teleport provides deployed forces with worldwide access to the Defense Information Systems Network by providing terminals at seven locations throughout the world.

In April 2011, Ms. Knight was selected as the Program Manager for the Sea Warrior Program (PMW 240) in PEO Enterprise Information Systems (EIS). PMW 240 manages a portfolio of IT programs for Navy manpower, personnel, training, education, enterprise capabilities, and distance support.

Her awards include Navy Superior Civilian Service Award, Secretary of the Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation, two Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Awards, DISA Meritorious Civilian Service Award, SSC Pacific 2008 Lauritsen-Bennett Award for Excellence in Engineering, DoN NCCOSC Commander's Teaming Award, DoN Acquisition Reform Executive/ASN RD&A Certificate of Excellence for Support of the Success of Acquisition Reform, SPAWAR Systems Center Exemplary Achievement Award and Publications Award for Technical Literature.